WENDELL POST

Margo Culley, Regina Curtis, Ted Lewis, Ann Zak

50¢ (cheap)

Winter '98

Vol. 21 #4

Thanks to... Regina Curtis

REGINA CURTIS--Her Going-Away Party

Some time over the Christmas holidays, Regina Curtis left her job as town coordinator for Wendell and New Salem to take a new job as administrative director of the Community Health Center of Franklin County. She loves her new job. She misses Wendell.

A party for Regina was held at the senior center before Christmas. Margo Culley wrote a short speech for the occasion. Regina started to work for the town in December of 1992 and over that time accomplished many things, developed very good working relationships and enduring friendships. One might think she was an important person around here for five years--I guess she was. She has the title of "grantwriter par excellence" from Margo. As town coordinator, alone and with the help of others, Regina brought much money into town for projects which we all can see: public safety grants (the Town playground), community policing grants (updated police equipment, women's self defense), DARE grants (youth activities) universal access grants (handicap access ramps at Town Hall and library). We have Regina to thank for housing rehab projects, a new Montague Rd. (I thank her), Morse Village Rd. (a great improvement), and coming improvements to Wickett Pond and Plain Rds. Whoa! Do I hear Jennison Rd.? Regina, wait, come back!

OK, OK. The grand salt shed, ReLeaf monies, etc. Regina pointed with pride to the three "dry hydrants" for fire protection, at Bowens and Stillwater Ponds, and the one near the Stone property on New Salem Rd. Margo said nothing pleased Regina more than getting "free stuff"--that her scavenging brought a large portable generator, desks, chairs, tables, and (wonder of wonders) obsolete typewriters. Way to go--I could use one right now!

To the selectboard, Regina was a steadfast Gal Friday who would work late into the night after board meetings, when everyone else had gone home. She was eloquent representation for Wendell to state agencies, town counsel, superintendent's office. She took a leadership role in the efforts of rural towns to win back payments in lieu of taxes for state land--her STAR role (Small Towns Against Repression).

Her going away party had the invite of a small gathering but the turnout of a celebrated event! I talked with Regina on the phone at her new job in Turners Falls. To say she was surprised would put it mildly. She expected the selectboard, other town officers, and some associates through work. She got instead a real party at the Senior Center--all the aforementioned, the seniors, road commissioners, bosses, laborers, loggers, carpenters, children, schoolteachers and superintendent, politicians, the mildly curious, food bringers, a clown who was not clowning around, carpetbaggers, rumrunners, a detective, a postmaster (and photographer) and even the old Ranger. Me, I came in off the street, but I had a present for her to open. And there were other gifts. There was music, good food, awards, all the merriment of loving people at Christmastime--this was her night!

She was overtaken. She paused by the long table, thought out loud that she might cry---said she was going to. I stood close. This might be a classic swoon. She had the moment--it was, after all, her party. All at one point or another expressed thanks and admiration for her thoughtful and diligent work on behalf of the town. I guess it was a mutual admiration society. Regina was elegant. Even with tears.

As I drove home, a refrain from Loreena McKennitt went round and round in my head. Perhaps a sentiment we all share these days. "Cast your eyes on the ocean. Cast your soul to the sea. When the dark night seems endless, please remember me. Please remember me." (Dante's Prayer, from Book of Secrets).

Regina ... pg 3

throw in your hat

Open Selectboard Seat

The Selectboard team of Lewis-Culley-Zak is soon to become the team of Lewis-Zak-? Three term board member, Margo Culley has announced in January that she will not run for re-election this spring. Margo says that while nine years of service on the Selectboard have been rewarding and challenging, "it is time for new energy and imagination on the board." While she feels the Board faces a number of difficult issues, it is an exciting time for public service, Margo says, because the Town will be receiving substantial grant revenue for new projects in the coming months.

The most rewarding aspect of her time on the Selectboard, Margo says, has been her work with fellow Board members Ted Lewis and Anne Zak. "Ted Lewis, a near thirty-year veteran on the Board, has enormous practical widom, 'real world' skills, complete integrity and a generous heart. And Anne Zak is a born community organizer with unlimited stamina, vision, and initiative." Margo feels the Board has worked exceptionally well together because of its range of skills and balanced perspectives.

Margo has also appreciated working with the many citizens involved in public life in Wendell. "Citizens of Wendell are unstintingly generous with their time, skills, and imagination—particularly in times of crisis—but also in an everyday way. Which is one reason why Wendell is such a culturally rich community."

Margo made her announcement early in the hope that several Wendellites might consider running for the Selectboard. The most successful candidates, she feels, will be those who love the diversity of Wendell, have a sense of humor, patience (the wheels of town government turn slowly), a thick skin, and work well in a team. Nomination papers will be available at the Town clerk's office and will be due back to Annie on March 16th.

WENDELL POST

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POST ARTICLE INSTRUCTIONS

Please send submissions to Wendell Post, PO Box 113, Wendell, MA 01379.

All articles and letters submitted to the Post for publication need to be signed. If you have a computer, you can help by setting them in our style: 3 3/4" wide, 10 point font size, standard font. Indent three spaces for paragraphs, and do not use an extra space between paragraphs. Please be brief, to share our limited space. If you have questions, call a Post staffer.

Articles: The Post welcomes signed, concise articles about topics of interest to Wendell

Letters: The Post accepts brief letters. Remember, passion doesn't need to be mean.

Artwork: Local artwork lovingly accepted. Must be in shiny black ink.

ADS $7.50 business card!

February 8, 1998

This letter is being written on a bright, crisp, sunny Sunday. Just one week ago it was a bright, warm, sunny Sunday. It was a very special Sunday because we had been invited to gather together at a memorial service for Mary Jane Brol, to both grieve for our loss of her and to celebrate her indomitable spirit and zest for life. Warm, heartfelt thanks to everyone involved in the organization and implementation of such a thoughtfully, lovingly orchestrated and appointed testimonial to a very, very special human being. (I will not mention names for fear of not mentioning everyone.) It was a blessing to see the pictures of Mary Jane from childhood to adulthood and to see those of her with Shana and Lana. Best of all we received a picture of her to take home! The programs, the music, the personal shared tributes to her, the spring flowers (thank you Swift River School!), the closing circle, and, finally, the sharing of food--culminating in the celebration of a caring community.

I will never forget Mary Jane Brol. (Nor will I forget Shana and Lana.) The first day we met is clearly recalled. Millie Bennett and I walked into the Wendell Store to eat breakfast and Mary Jane greeted us with that wonderful warm smile which radiated from her entire being, flooding up into her eyes and face. Mary Jane made people feel good about themselves and about life itself. It became a morning habit to eat breakfast with Shana and Lana. The girls kept their cereals and breakfast choices at the store, and would eat before catching the school bus--usually at a run!

At first somewhat shy and quiet, they blossomed into mature, friendly young women. Then one day, Mary Jane and the girls were no longer there. Mary Jane was too ill to continue working. (I can still see her with that man's felt hat at a jaunty tilt on the back of her head with that vital, energetic stride of hers, hurrying across the parking lot to open the store!)

About five years ago, Millie Bennett called and asked me to drive her to Wendell for breakfast and introduced me to the Wendell Store--and, as time went by, one by one to the unique Wendell citizens who frequented the Wendell Store. Much, much more than breakfast was "served up to us" at the Wendell Store. There were the intense political discussions, people engaging in vehement personal confrontations, even fisticuffs at times--and the people who greeted each other with genuine caring, joy and hugs! Furthermore, over the past five years my most interesting and stimulating conversations have taken place at the Wendell Store! Believe me, "breaking bread" at the Wendell Store is never boring! (Sometimes indigestion threatened due to loudly expressed "dis-satisfactions"--but never boredom!)

To me, the community of Wendell is like a picture puzzle composed of lots of different shapes, sizes and varying colors. It is a puzzle which will never be completed because pieces disappear, are lost and new pieces turn up and fill the empty spaces in a new way. Yet, there is a cohesive unity to the puzzle--it's just a puzzle lots of people keep adding to--each one finding a piece to the puzzle in their own time. There's no hurry.

Another way to put it is that there seem to be as many drummers, as many different beats as there are people in Wendell! Each individual "marches to a different drummer"--or, rather, everyone moves in his or her own way. Some do the cake walk, some belly dance, some dance a ballet, some boogie, some rock, some roll. Others do the shuffle, the fox trot, the waltz, the polka, the limbo. Then there are those who simply amble along, those (like me) with two left feet who just rhythmically stumble along--and some of us who mostly straggle along behind all those "gyrations". However, amazingly, all of you move in unison in a united effort to support each other--especially when one of you is ill, is in need of a helping hand--or even needs lots of financial help, lots of personal care (shopping, cleaning, cooking, transportation, child care etc.). It is called love, caring, compassion and it involves sacrifice, and even some risk. It means personal hands-on involvement to make a difference. It is a joy to know and be associated with all the wonderful, caring people of Wendell. Thank you for the fascinating picture puzzle. Thank you for the unison of all those lively beats. Thank you for the understated quiet, simple grace with which you respond to each others' suffering, pain and needs. Thank you for the stimulating, concerned conversations!

Sincerely,
Sheliah Moran

FROM LIBRARY TO COFFEEHOUSE

Dear Wendell Full Moon Coffeehouse Committee:

We, the Board of Trustees for the Wendell Free Library, want to take this opportunity to thank you for all your efforts on behalf of the Library.

At the January Full Moon Coffeehouse the library raised $200 at the bake sale and as you know, you raised another $382 for us at the door.

We appreciate that the Coffeehouse Committee has taken on the role of bringing interesting cultural events into our community while providing an opportunity for local groups to fundraise. It is a tremendous amount of work and often risky for an organization such as the library to plan a sporadic fundraising event independently.

Your efforts help groups such as the Library to have additional resources which the town taxpayers would be hard put to fund.

Heartfelt thanks from all on the Board & your librarian,

Fran Lowry
Rosie Heidkamp
Jenny Schimmel
Sylvia Wetherby
Carol Makowsky

LETTERS continued... pg 3

Pg 3 Regina Curtis from pg 1

Regina Curtis & State Representative Steve Kulick

Regina wishes me to remind about her new job. She has administrative oversight of a community health center providing preventive and primary care to under- and uninsured people. The Community Health Center of Franklin County is located at the Farren Hospital in Turners Falls. She encourages anybody in need of health care, regardless of ability to pay, to call her at 413 772-3748.

Hal Stowell

The Wendell Meeting House

introduction to WENDELL

No terrifying heights with a Great Stone Face, no awesome gorges, no rocky coast dashed by storms. Nor is the terrain of Wendell commonplace. Pleasant hills, one is a mini mountain, and friendly valleys enclosing meadows, this town is agreeable medium in scenery. If you have to be astonished all your life, or stimulated by opera, ballet, crime with hand guns and politicians rampart, don't come to Wendell. This is a town of rural comfort close enough to cities to enjoy their services, people here do not commute to one employment center, for Wendell is neighbor to numerous mills, shops, construction sites, colleges and universities.

Wendell is constant with its resources. By the same token it is envied by adjacent places less blessed. When misguided promoters have intended to destroy the environment, Wendell has sternly resisted.

In winter snowmobiles charging through our peaceful forest, their drivers themselves dangerously charged? Heaven forbid!!!!

For sober history, Wendell has formed from choice parts of larger towns in the heroic year of 1781. Heroic because in the same month of May General Washington launched the Master campaign that clinched America's independence. He planned with General Rochambeau and Admiral deGrasse for the concentration of American and French forces to besiege the British government under Cornwallis at Yorktown, Virginia. Wendell's first selectman were barely installed in office when the enemy (October 1781) filed out of their ruined defenses to lay down their arms. Doubtless veterans of Wendell witnessed the surrender, perhaps among them--who knows to the contrary--hardy Nathaniel Wilder who survived the revolution to live one hundred years with two days over for good measure.

The people of early Wendell practiced the independence they had helped to win. Thirty to forty were with the valiant Daniel Shays in armed protest against no longer the British but, if you please, the oppression of Boston. A quarter century later the town instructed its representative in the legislature to complain of the war of 1812, but did not fail to furnish its quota of troops to the Union army in the Civil War.

The World War I memorial plaque is embedded in the first Wendell artifact. It is the millstone of Luke Osgood, who settled at Bowens Pond in 1754. A half dozen more families trickled in from as far East as Lexington. Some tycoons soon came from Boston to buy large tracts of the promising frontier. Wendell is named for one of them. Another, Hetty Green. Hetty improved a modest inheritance to become America's richest woman.

In those days, Hetty or not, one got much for little, inflation did not devour savings. A few years before Hetty's advent, the selectman of Wendell farmed out a pauper and her son at $1 a week and considered that $200 as capital sum would support them forever.

A particularly pleasing part of Wendell is called Mormon Hollow. Tradition is that band of Mormons, making for western settlement, were so taken with morality and industry in this town. Farms were diligently tended. A dozen sawmills were at work on the streams. Men were fashioning shingles and staves, women made hats and brooms, the blacksmith's anvil rang.

The coach from Greenfield to Worcester made its only stop at Ballard Tavern in Wendell. It has been tastefully restored as a residence, the mammoth barn is as always.

Wendell was not half way for the coach but it tarried here because Ballard served superior food and drink. The horses said the oats were sweeter, the hay more succulent.

This noble tradition of good fare persists.

BROADUS MITCHELL

NOTE: Marion Herrick requested that this article about Wendell's history be put in the Post.

Letters from pg 2

Letters

December 17, 1997

To The Wendell Post:

Obviously helicopter flyovers were an issue in Wendell long before I moved into town, but the September 3 performance annoyed me so much that I'm offering my two cents worth even if it's all been said before.

Whoever was in that unmarked Huey took a special interest in our property. We have a patchwork of woods and clearings that would lend itself to growing dope if one were so inclined. The aircraft flew a systematic back-and-forth search pattern, very low and slow and thorough. No markings of any kind to let me know what agency was burning up jet fuel at my expense. Just a big round camera port in the belly of the beast. All I could do was make sure they got a picture of a crazy old lady shaking her fist in helpless outrage. (The old lady's canine companion, having no concept of political philosophy, went right on wagging her tail.)

Since we're not doing anything illegal out there, why should we mind if they search? Well, we're not doing anything illegal inside the house, either, but that doesn't mean the authorities can just barge in and search the place. And even if they had a warrant for a legal search, they would still have to show us some sort of credentials so we would know with whom we were dealing. Our concept of "home" includes our woods and fields just as much as it does the house, maybe more so. We resent the intrusion on our property outdoors as much as we would indoors.

There could be economic loss as well as moral offense. They scared my sheep. Okay, I only have one sheep. But I'm considering acquiring more and making a serious venture of it. Everybody knows that sheep are lovable dimbulbs that sometimes exercise extremely bad judgement when frightened by some clattering bat out of hell. I don't need to see my tax money being used to invade my space and terrify my livestock.

Thanks for letting me sound off. At least we still have a free press.

Melinda M. Godfrey

Melinda M. Godfrey

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Pg. 4

SELECTBOARD MINUTES

TOWN OF WENDELL MASSACHUSETTS 01379

TOWN HALL 508 544 3395

Wendell Selectboard Minutes October 28,1997 Members present were Ted Lewis and Margo Culley. Also present was Regina Curtis, Town Coordinator, Sarah Golding, Athol Daily News and Wanita Sears. Warrant and minutes were signed. Correspondence was reviewed. Meeting convened at 7:00.

Board granted Prudy Smith use of the Town Hall beginning in January on Wednesdays from 5:30- 7 for Kripalu Yoga classes pending new floor completion. Postponement was discussed as well as increased Town Hall use cost due to tight tank pumping fees.

Mez Davis, Recreation Committee discussed skating rink which was determined difficult due to other town experience, basketball court which will be possible from DARE grant, and the New Moon Video Dance to be held for teens. New Moon is postponed until tight tank installation. Robert Heller attended for New Moon also.

Jean Dwight, Assessor's Clerk reported tax rate has not been set at 7:30 Tax Classification Hearing. Ms. Dwight is awaiting paperwork from Town Accountant and Tax Collector. $100,000 has been lost due to tax exempt status, the Sogard home loss, and condemning Levy limit is $845,934. 10,822 new growth.

Board moved and voted unanimously to certify the School Committee as Special Municipal Employees.

Senior Center granted use to Sally Stuffin.

DEP approval has been received for tight tank.

Robbery of cash and checks from Treasurer's Office at Town Offices.

Forest Cutting Plan received from DEM.

Two complaints received from neighbors of Michael Wing in reference to amount of vehicles and his repair license. Letter will be sent Mr. Wing pursuant to compliance for license renewal.

Community Septic Program and School Department bill for last year will be on Fall Special Town Meeting.

Special Town Meeting set for Tuesday December 9, 1997 at Town Hall.

Off site recreation issues will be discussed with MDC at the Quabbin Visitor's Center on December 12,1997 at 9:00.

$11,000 was received by towns from Community Policing Grant.

Farley Road railroad crossing will be closed October 29, 30, and 31 for repair.

Jennison Road will be closed November 10-17 for culvert project.

Swift River School received $92,000 and Franklin County Technical School received $86,000 from Foundation Reserve Program.

Rte 2 Safety Implementation Plan is to be discussed at October 30,1997 meeting.

Ted Lewis reported that Norman Thidemann was appointed as Franklin County Technical School Collective Bargaining Representative.

Fee for service program has been instituted by Franklin County Council of Governments.

Board signed to proclaim November 15.1997 as Massachusetts Reycles Day.

Robert Ritchie has been appointed as Assistant Attorney General/Director of Municipal Law in the MA.Attorney General's Office.

Wiring Inspection fees are down 19% in FY'97.

Meeting adjourned at 8:45

Respectfully Submitted,
Wanita Sears
Selectboard Clerk

Wendell Selectboard Meeting November 10,1997 Minutes members present were Anne Zak and Margo Culley. Also present was Regina Curtis, Town Coordinator, Carol Lauriat, Greenfield Recorder, and Wanita Sears. Meeting convened at 7:00.

Board met in Senior Center with School Committee and a group of concerned Swift River School parents. Bette Richard, Parent's Group requested Board rescind School Committee's special municipal employee status due to School Committee Chair, Chris Ewell's work at Swift River School being seen by the parent's group as a conflict of interest in that contact with Christine Lewis, Principal and Leonard Lubinsky, Superindent conflicts with the resignation of 6th grade teacher, Nathaniel Mulcahy. Board discussed need for School Committee and parents to mediate. No motion was made by Board to rescind School Committee special municipal employee status.

Tight Tank bid opening held at 8:00. One bid received from J.L. Senn for $9,800. Board will recess for bid award after discussing with Bob Leet, Board of Health and Doug Mc Clay, Engineer.

Letter received from Carolyn Manley, Treasurer on new payment procedure to all departments due to robbery.

Discussion of article to purchase computer for Treasurer to be on Special Town Meeting.

Request received from Michael Wing for license change. Board will hold a public hearing.

Letter received from O'Reilly, Talbot, Okun Environmental that no significant risk remains in oil leakage at Swift River School.

Workman's Comp has been increased by $34 due to audit increase.

DOE has not received School Committee end of year reports.

Meeting will be held on Thursday December 4, 1997 of appointees to conceive a plan for a permanent septic system for the Town Hall.

Fabric has been purchased for Town Hall curtains. Anne Zak discussed paint, stage, lighting, and floor.

Discussion of Senior Center rental system with book request.

Discussion of water bubbler for playground and water testing requirements.

$6,000 has been received from DARE Grant and $11,000 for Community Policing.

Meeting recessed at 9:30 until Saturday morning at 10:00 to discuss Tight Tank bid award.

Respectfully Submitted,
Wanita Sears
Selectboard Clerk

Wendell Selectboard Meeting December 9, 1997 Minutes Members present were Ted Lewis, Anne Zak, and Margo Culley. Also present was Regina Curtis, Town Coordinator, Sarah Golding, Athol Daily News, and Wanita Sears. Warrant and minutes were signed. Correspondence was reviewed. Meeting convened at 7:00.

Bob Leet, Board of Health discussed Tight Tank installation at Town Hall to be done on December 18,1997 and Article 4 Special Town Meeting.

There will be a Farewell Party for Regina Curtis, Town Coordinator on December 18, 1997 at the Senior Center from 4-6. Town Coordinators position will be posted along with Selectboard Typist position.

Board signed various license renewals.

Anne Zak will attend Rte. 2 Task Force Meeting on December 11,1997 at 7:00 at Erving Town Hall.

Board discussed conversation with Pauline Davis on septic issues.

Finance Committee discussed Special Town Meeting, Tuesday December 16, 1997 at 7:00 and Executive Session with Town Counsel December 17, 1997 on Tax Collector issue.

Town Common Improvement Committee Meeting will be Tuesday December 16,1997 at 1:00. DEM Landscape Architect will be in attendance.

Minutes of Shelburne Control Oversight Meeting on December 3,1997 received.

DEM letter asking Board to appoint two representatives to Lake Wyola State Park Advisory

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TOWN OF WENDELL MASSACHUSETTS 01379
TOWN HALL 508 544 3395

Selectboard Minutes

Committee. Anne Zak and a member from the Recreation Committee will be our representatives for advising and assisting in planning and development.

Discussion of Anne Diemand, Police Officer receiving a late night call from the Choiniere residence of rooster noise from the Michael Wing home.

Discussion of building condemnation on Lockes Hill Road.

Discussion of response from Leonard Lubinsky, School Superitendent and Dale Kowacki, New Salem Accountant's oversight of Swift River School discussion.

New State legislation has been passed that allows many Town positions to become appointed when previously elected through Town Meeting ballot vote.

Invitation received from MMA to a MunEnergy Meeting on December 11,1997 at 7:30 in Northampton.
Meeting recessed until December 13,1997 at 9:00 for Public Hearing for Michael Wing's car repair licensing.
Respectfully Submitted,
Wanita Sears
Selectboard Clerk

Wendell Selectboard Meeting Minutes December 30,1997 members present were Ted Lewis, Anne Zak, and Ted Lewis. Also present was Wanita Sears. Meeting convened at 7:00 from December 23 1997 meeting recess.

Meeting was held to present Michael Wing a license comparable to his business due to changes in licensing classifications since original issuance. Concerned citizens were present on Michael Wing's behalf. Jean Forward presented the Board with a letter from Mr. Wing that he would not be attending. Board noted Mr. Wing's present license was to expire the next day. Citizens and Board discussed the differences between the Class IV that they were offering and the Class III Mr.Wing was presently operating under along with Town bylaws prohibiting without Town Meeting vote any further auto junking.
Board agreed to meet on December 31,1997 at 4:00 for license signing with Mr. Wing. Citizens agreed to notify Mr. Wing of this meeting.
Meeting recessed at 8:30 to 4:00 December 31,1997
Respectfully Submitted,
Wanita Sears
Selectboard Clerk

Wendell Selectboard Meeting Minutes January 6,1998 Members present were Ted Lewis, Anne Zak, and Margo Culley. Also present was Wanita Sears. Warrant was signed. Meeting convened at 7:00.

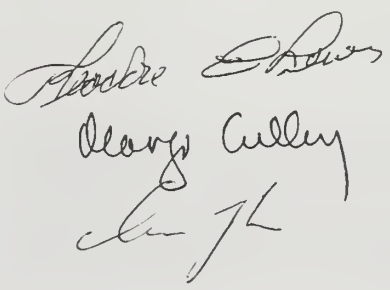
Regina Curtis, recently resigned Town Coordinator, Mark Lewis, and Marion Von Mearing, New Salem Selectboard Members attended to take part in interviews for filling of the shared Wendell-New Salem Town Coordinator's position.

Christopher Ryan and Marjorie Mc Ginnis were interviewed for Town Coordinator.

Members of both Boards along with Ms. Curtis discussed interviews and voted unanimosly to award the position to Marjorie Mc Ginnis.

Concern had been expressed to the Board from Michael Wing of Class IV license being unregistered for repair sales. Appeals process will need to be instituted by Mr. Wing.

Board signed to adopt a recycled products purchasing policy.
Meeting recessed at 10:00 to January 6,1998 at 4:00 with Assessors.
Respectfully Submitted,
Wanita Sears
Selectboard Clerk



COMMUNITY BOXING CLASS

There are plans to have a five week boxing class sponsored by the Wendell - New Salem Community Policing Comm. We are looking at having the class be at the Wendell Town Hall or somewhere close by on Thursdays, 7-9 pm starting towards the end of March. The class will be taught by Trooper Robert BONOIT from the MSP. The class will be held at no cost but each person must have a mouth guard. We will also need to have hand wraps but people can share the hand wraps.

This class will be for all ages, male and female. Look for notices or call Anne at 544-6111 or Trooper BONOIT at 249-4143 to sign up.

Franklin Regional Council of Governments

Following the inception of the Franklin Regional Council of Governments , the appointed members have been busy insuring an orderly and smooth transition to the new entity.

The guiding thoughts behind members actions has always been to best serve our towns interests. The concept behind a "Council of Gov'ts", has been that we can pool our resources, talents, and experience in local gov't to benefit our member towns at a lower cost to our fellow citizens.

As the Wendell representative, I have joined the "Regional Issues and Programming Subcommittee". The purpose of this committee is to make reccomendations to the full Council on areas or projects that we believe can best utilize our resources to pursue beneficial programs for our member towns. Some areas we are currently exploring include: a unified response to the upcoming Restructuring of Electric Utilities, forming buying cooperatives for municipal supplies and services, and economic development programs.

Full Council meetings are open to the public as are subcommittee meetings. The next scheduled Regional Issues Subcommittee meeting is Feb. 24th, at 5:30 p.m. at the Franklin County Courthouse.

Joseph Coll

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Obituaries

A HEARTFELT THANK YOU

A Heartfelt Thank You to all of the community members who helped make Mary Jane Brol's Remembrance Celebration happen on Sunday, February 1, 1998 at the Wendell Town Hall.

A special thanks goes out to: Rosalie Rosser, Joy Gorzocoski, Dennis Hudson, Molly Kaynor, Jerry Eide, Larry Hess, Deva Skydancer, Adrian Montagno, Vic & Patti Scutari, Apple Ahearn, Don Ogden, Susan & Jonathan Von Ranson, Chris Marano, Laura Maples, Kathy Becker, Jane Schoenberg, Francis Doughty, Laura Doughty, Karen Fogliatti, Ed Boland, Anna Geraci, Paul Lefebvre, Rosie Heidkamp, Shirley White, Sarah de Roode, Laurie Stamell, Nini Melvin, Nancy Staudemeir, Mary Lewis Webb, Lynne Asch, Kathy Fleming, Hannah & Jeremy, Sheliah Moran, Sister Claire, Phyllis Lawrence, Katie Richard, Ashley Manley, Keri Ewell, Althea Potter, Robbie Leppzer, Anne Zak, Elizabeth, Kay Marion Raymond, Dean's Beans, Principal Christine Lewis and Swift River School.

A special thank you to all of you who brought food and beverages to make this community gathering an incredible outpouring of love. If we have omitted acknowledging anyone please forgive us, as so many people contributed. It seems virtually impossible to name all of you who lent support and helped in so many ways, big and small. It was an honor to work with you all.

In the spirit of community,
mez ziemba
b. clearwater liberty

MARY JANE BROL

The last four months, Mary Jane's smile radiated across our kitchen as it had earlier from the counter of the Country Store. For me, she was easy to talk with about my own challenges and daily business. She just touched on her own pain. She'd share, with irony and a trace of bewilderment, about the difficult medical choices that were up for her. We didn't talk about death.

She lived with death, knew she might be taken bodily from this life and her remarkable daughters. Despite that shadow, despite needing space to carry out her healing program, she was virtually always upbeat, ready to join a conversation or bless with her smile.

She contributed her good ideas, dessert cups, 40-h.p. juicer (well, it was big), and New York State honey to the household. She refrained from cooking though she loved food, finally even from walking across the Common to hear Quetzal at the Full Moon Coffee House. And even mothering, her life's focus until this. THAT'S how much she wanted to heal. A phenomenon arose to support her, to take up the work--the Mary Jane Committee, a host of devoted friends and acquaintances drawn to cook, drive and companion her and her two girls. What to credit--Mary Jane's beauty and transparency, Patti Scutari's gift for helping her friend by organizing, or my species' empathy--for the community of loving support that developed around her...? I felt privileged that it filtered through our house.

Mary Jane challenged me, sometimes made me mad, but bottom line was sort of an angel. I first judged her struggle to heal as unseemly, but her dying had a kind of grace, I had to admit. She did it by remaining true to herself, I think, and to her prodigious desire for this life--not the next--regardless of pressure or fear of appearances. She inspired the community and made me think. Her example and her selection of friends taught me to distrust my neat theories. Truth really is messy. The Mary Jane-Wendell phenomenon and her brilliant smile live in my memory as a reminder.

Jonathan von Ranson

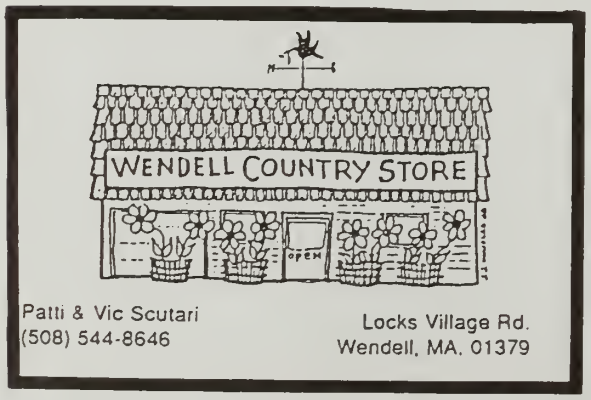
MARY JANE BROL

Many of us have our stories, our feelings and our thoughts about Mary Jane, her life in Wendell and her death. The one thing that I do know for certain is she left us two beautiful girls to care for. I want to suggest to people if you have stories or thoughts about how you knew Mary Jane, is to write these thoughts down for Shana and Lana for when they get older. I suspect at some future time the girls would find it helpful to hear how we knew her and what her life meant to each of us. The other thing I will suggest is to write to them:

Shana and Lana Brol
P.O. Box 247
Versailles, N.Y. 14168

The girls were taken away very suddenly as we all know and they still have their place in our hearts and we should let them know that.

Anne Diemand



TRIBUTE TO MARY JANE (Gemini)
1-25-98
by mez ziemba
(treesister)

you came to
town
flanked by (your) 2 angels
weaving a magic
carpet of
coffee filters
coffee beans
coffee houses
cash registers
and soccer balls.

a spiral
dance that touched
us all
your smile
the radiant
sun
never setting
in the public eye.

each one of us
thought that smile
of your was
shining just for
us,
the twinkle in your eye
added pleasure
voice deep & rich
like the woods
of wendell
you loved
we love
we love you

but even as the
sun set
your sky
was aglow
rosy, pink
shining star

you drank the water i offered you
you accepted it
graciously

and
as i said this to you
as i shut the
milky white
door to your room
viewing,
breathing
your beauty

one last time
here
DO WIDZENIA
dowidzenia

-until we meet again-
you echoed
it back
to me
as the door latch
closed
polish angel.

(we thought
you would
grow old
with us
but now
instead
you are with us
always,
mary jane,
polish angel.)

Milton & Sally Wilder, grandson Niko

IN MEMORY OF

JOSIAH MILTON WILDER, JR.

OUR DAD

He was born in Wendell, Massachusetts on December 7, 1937, brought into the world through the love of Elizabeth Mary Fox (Wilder) and Josiah Milton Wilder Sr., the joyful first born of the only two boys resulting from this loving marriage. As a young boy he had a hard but happy childhood. In his early teenage years he worked at the sawmill which was about 40 feet outside his bedroom window. Glenn Ellis was always happy to have the strong eager young lad, who was willing to do whatever was asked of him. His childhood soon ended when his own father got sick, and in his Junior year in high school at the of age of 17 he took on the responsibility of the man of the house, taking care of his father, mother and younger brother of only 8 years old. At this time he started building a house for himself and his future wife, to be right across the road from his mother and father. His father, only 56, died leaving Dad at 18 now truly head of the man's work in the family. He then married at 18, still caring for all the needs of his mother and brother. His wife Sally and he started their own family when he turned 21. At this time he was a foundry worker at Rodney Hunts and over the course of 4 years became crane operator, where he stayed for another 6 years. By the time he was 31 he was the father of 4 children, Karen Rich, Denise, Josiah Milton Wilder III (Joey).

He enjoyed the great outdoors, wildlife, the ecological cycle of nature and life. He learned and grew quickly, often with a happy face, a bit of a jokester. That made him fun to be around, whether he was working or playing cards, with the kids playing all around him. He liked to be on a schedule and tried not to take chances. He always liked his children home at night and to keep guard over his loved ones. He always made family and friends most important. His house was always open to his children and family.

He was like a guardian angel to his granddaughter, Jennifer. When ever she needed him, he was always there for her and all of us.

He continued working his whole life. He was Fire Chief for Wendell. He worked out in the woods skidding and trucking logs for his father-in-law, Chet Clark. He was partners with his brother David, where they ran their own saw mill operation. He drove truck and plowed while working on the road crew for the Town of Wendell. He co-owned his own bus company with his wife and worked logging for Robinson's, when he wasn't driving bus. He then worked with his brother David running heavy equipment for his construction company. His most recent job was working at Deerfield Academy, where he worked for 7 years until his stroke last January rendered him medically disabled and unable to work.

Hopefully in his death we can all gain a greater appreciation of that which family provides us, and a greater appreciation of what a great, wonderful gift parents truly are.

Although life has struck us a terrible blow by taking our Dad, Milly to many, from us, we are still able to count our many blessings. He leaves behind his family and friends and a lesson that life is too short, so be happy and stick together. But I believe that our biggest blessing has been all of you. Thank you all for your kind words, your thoughts, your prayers, and your sympathy. And thank you all for coming today to share in our final farewell to Josiah Milton Wilder, Jr.

(Dad) I don't know what we'll do without you.

Karen A Wilder

This piece was written by Karen Wilder and read by her before family and friends as a eulogy to her father.

Mr. Wilder is buried in the Wendell Center Cemetery with other family members. The extended Wilder and Clark families have been long on the land in this community, and have a remarkable history of industriousness here. Like his family before him, and those who are coming after, the life of Mr. (Milly) Wilder made Wendell a better place. K.B.

JOSHUA M. WHITMORE

"A good kid"

Joshua M. Whitmore, 18, of 68 West Orange Road died Saturday (12-20-97) from injuries suffered during a motor vehicle accident in Petersham.

He was born in Springfield, June 19, 1979, the son of Kenneth M. Whitmore Jr. and Christine M. Wing.

He lived in Orange all his life.

A 1997 graduate of Ralph C. Mahar Regional School, he was a member of the football team for six years, playing the position of line-backer and wore number 58.

He worked at Beulah Land Maintainers for the past several years, and was a personal family friend.

His hobbies included woodworking, collecting baseball cards and playing football.

He leaves his mother, Christine Wing and his father, Kenneth M. Whitmore Jr., both of Orange; a brother, David A. Whitmore of Orange; his maternal grandparents, Kenneth and Lorraine Wing of Wendell, his paternal grandmother, Hazel Gardner of Orange; a nephew and close friend, Robert Kleinkauf of Orange.

The funeral service was held at Central Congregation Church of Orange.

Memorial contributions may be made to Shriners Hospital for Crippled Children, 516 Carew St., Springfield 01104, or to the charity of one's choice.

Mother, Christine Wing wishes Joshua's friends and family to know that, "contrary to published reports, Joshua had not been drinking. The toxicology report was negative for both alcohol and drugs. Speed was a factor, and icy roads. He was a good kid. I just want people to know that no matter what the papers said, they were wrong. He never gave me any problems. He got great grades in school. He was on the Honor Role several times. People knew they could count on him."

"He loved football. He never wanted to leave Mahar because of it. He considered going to Tech, but there was no football. He needed his football. He was always there for every game, injured or not."

" He loved kids. Kids just clung to Josh, especially Alex, his two and a half year old nephew."

"He was cremated, and I'll keep him home. Since he isn't in a cemetery, if people want to visit him, anybody that wants can come to the house and just talk to him in his room. The room is the same way it was. Some of his friends have visited."

In Petersham, near the pond and curve where the accident happened, a roadside shrine has been created. "There are flowers, a cross. The teen-agers keep going up and keep lighting candles. I put a heart and flowers there for Valentines Day."

Many teens in Wendell were his friends, and he has family here. To those who knew him, Joshua will always be a good kid. Those who loved him will never doubt that.

K.B.

Student champs

Sara Woodward

Jake Diemand

It was my good fortune recently to interview two members of Mahar Regional High School who were named captains of their respective teams this past fall. I spoke first with Sarah Woodward, team captain of the Mahar Girls' Volleyball team. As you may recall, on Nov. 19, Mahar came back from two games to none to defeat Medfield High School 3-2 to win the Mass. Div. II championship and complete a perfect 23-0 season.

Having attended many of their games in the last two years, including the thrilling culminating victory, I was curious to find out what ingredients made this team special. The answer included hard work, friendship, as well as a respected coach. Sarah explained that she and her teammates have played together for years. Even now, having already concluded their final varsity year of volleyball, they continue to play 2-3 hours every Sunday in Greenfield as part of the Western Mass. Junior Olympics regional traveling team. During previous summers, they have attended clinics and trained in preparation for the fall season.

As team captain, Sarah saw a dual role for herself. She not only led practices and warmups, but if problems or obstacles arose off the court, she helped to deal with them responsibly. She pointed out that such leadership didn't require you to be the best player. On the court I noticed that her coach, Polly Bixby, ran the team without screaming or theatrics, at most with a quiet enthusiasm. This led me to the issue of motivation. At the outset of the year, according to Sarah, the team set for themselves the goal of winning the state championship. This was the first time they had aimed so high. Having come so close the year before, in which they had lost in the championship game, the team was committed to the effort necessary to have another shot at the title. Her teammates also felt the pressure of high expectations from both parents and school.

Sarah has achieved success not only in sports but also academically. Along with several of her teammates, Sarah is a member of the National Honor Society. She has received early admittance to Springfield College where she plans to major in Physical Therapy. Of course, she hopes to continue playing volleyball as well as track and field. Sarah shared that it has been "her dream" since 9th grade to be a physical therapist. She has been influenced by an uncle, a physical therapist, as well as by her father, Jim, the varsity coach of the Mahar Football team. Sarah described how she has always felt intuitive about healing injuries. She has volunteered at Poet's Seat Nursing Home, Wilkerson and Golden PT Associates and is currently working as part of a Cooperative Program with a student at Mahar who is receiving PT services.

As a final question, I asked what was special about Mahar? Without hesitation, Sarah cited her involvement in extracurricular activities, in particular, Peer Mediation, Peer Education, and SOS (Save our Schools). She added that she enjoyed science, especially Chemistry taught by Mr. Raymond, "an excellent teacher." Sarah concluded her comments by mentioning the importance of the close friendships she has maintained during high school.

After saying my goodbyes, I headed to the other end of town to speak with Jacob Diemand, captain of the Mahar football team. Jake played on both sides of the ball, starting the first 5 games at fullback, averaging 90 yds. a game, and then switching to center, when the team needed consistency at that position. Jake admitted missing the spotlight as an offensive star but felt that it was best for the team.

The year before, Mahar had reached the Western Mass. Division II Super Bowl championship game with a talented, senior-laden squad. I wondered how Jake would assess this season's 6-5 record. Between inexperience (2 seniors starting) and injuries, Jake said that a lot of people thought they would do worse. According to Jake, the highlight of the year came when Mahar shut out their cross-town rival, Athol 8-0.

Voted captain by his teammates, Jake's responsibilities included leading calisthenics, calling the coin toss, accepting or refusing penalties, helping his teammates maintain their composure on the field, and motivating them in the huddle. Like Sarah, Jake felt his reponsibilities to his team extended beyond the playing field . His style was to try to "set a good example." Possessing a quiet leadership, he preferred "making a good play" on the football field to the hoopla of pep rallies and photo ops.

Following graduation, Jake will pursue his dream of becoming a Ranger in the U.S. Army. An elite outfit, Rangers work in small teams, go behind enemy lines, perform reconnaissance, rescue, as well as 1st strike missions. Jake detailed how he had always wanted to become a Ranger; how, as a kid playing "Cowboys and Indians," he would always be the one sneaking up on somebody. Having already been accepted into the Delayed Entry program, Jake will enter boot camp in July at Fort Benning, Georgia.

It was clear from our interview that Jacob has been strongly influenced by his experiences playing football at Mahar. He singled out Coach Woodward, who taught him about leadership and what it takes to succeed in life, namely, hard work, and a willingness to pay that price.

The best of luck to both of these fine young people.

Stephen Broll

Teen Activities Multiplying

Teens, parents of teens and others interested in improving opportunities for this age group met several times in January and early February with the Rec Commission and brainstormed. As a result, a teen drop-in center opened at the senior center on Feb. 6. Teen basketball at Swift River School started the next night. Over a dozen teens participated at each event.

Another activity, boxing, will be offered Thursday evenings in late March and during April, free of charge. (There is a $1 donation for the drop-in center and the teen basketball). Call Anne Diemand 544-6111 for details on boxing.

A meeting--potluck dessert--is scheduled Friday, Feb. 27 at 6 p.m. at the Senior Center to refine plans for activities including the drop-in center. Following the meeting, the room will become the usual Friday drop-in center and will be open from 7-10. Teens are encouraged to come to the meeting (then stay on), as well as others who want to help. Chaperones are needed for rotating assignments for the drop-in center and other events. If interested, call Mez Ziemba at 544-7561.

(The Rec Committee thanks the Golden Agers for their generosity in allowing senior center use for teens).

The Saturday evening basketball is ongoing in February and March from 7-9 p.m. at the Swift River School gymnasium. Like the teen center, it is under the auspices of the Recreation Commission in response to requests from teenagers. Jonathan von Ranson is coordinating it with the help of Bob Secula and John Cremins. Gerry Manning and Phyllis Lawrence are the school's representatives. The teens welcome adults to join them.

Other ideas that were brainstormed included bowling, soccer, a program in resolving differences constructively, and writing in a group. Teen interest and organizational participation is key--it can make these and other ideas happen.

Jonathan von Ranson and Mez Ziemba

Caralee & "Sparky"

CARALEE MANLEY
ALL STAR

by Kathy Becker

Mahar Junior, Caralee Manley of Locke Hill Road, Wendell plays a tough game of soccer. In fact, she's made the Tri-County All Star Team.

At the end of the season, after the tournaments in October, area coaches got together at their league meeting and voted on the year's All Stars. Our own Caralee was one of three girls receiving this honor from Mahar. This was no Honorable Mention, this was First Team!

Caralee is proud that her team, under the guidance of Coach Jill Ninteau, achieved this recognition. The girls' soccer program at Mahar started only 4 years ago. "We were excited and surprised when the coaches told us."

Caralee is second year varsity, and plays stopper. "We play a diamond defense. I play the position up front, kind of like a defensive infielder." Caralee was a starter all year, usually playing the whole game. She has been elected to be one of four Captains of the team for her senior year.

As Captain, Caralee will "go out for the coin toss" at the beginning of the games. She also wants to be able to offer extra encouragement to her team.

These achievements have given Caralee the confidence to think seriously about going on to play soccer in college. But for now, Caralee is focusing on next year. "We got switched into a harder league, so we have to improve a lot to compete. Our team learned so quickly, I know we won't have a problem.

She wants to go to Soccer Camp at Umass this summer. "If we go as a team, they keep you as a team. We'd like the whole team to go."

This spring she'll be playing soccer with the League in Greenfield. Good luck, Caralee, to you and all your teammates!

Posting Place

WENDELL OLD HOME DAY

Plans for Wendell old Home Day 1998 are in the works. We are thinking of changing the date from the second Saturday in July to sometime in August. One of the reasons is this would allow us to get back on track with the Outerspace Band so that we could be combined with their summer tour again. If anyone has any feelings one way or another - now is the time to speak and be heard!

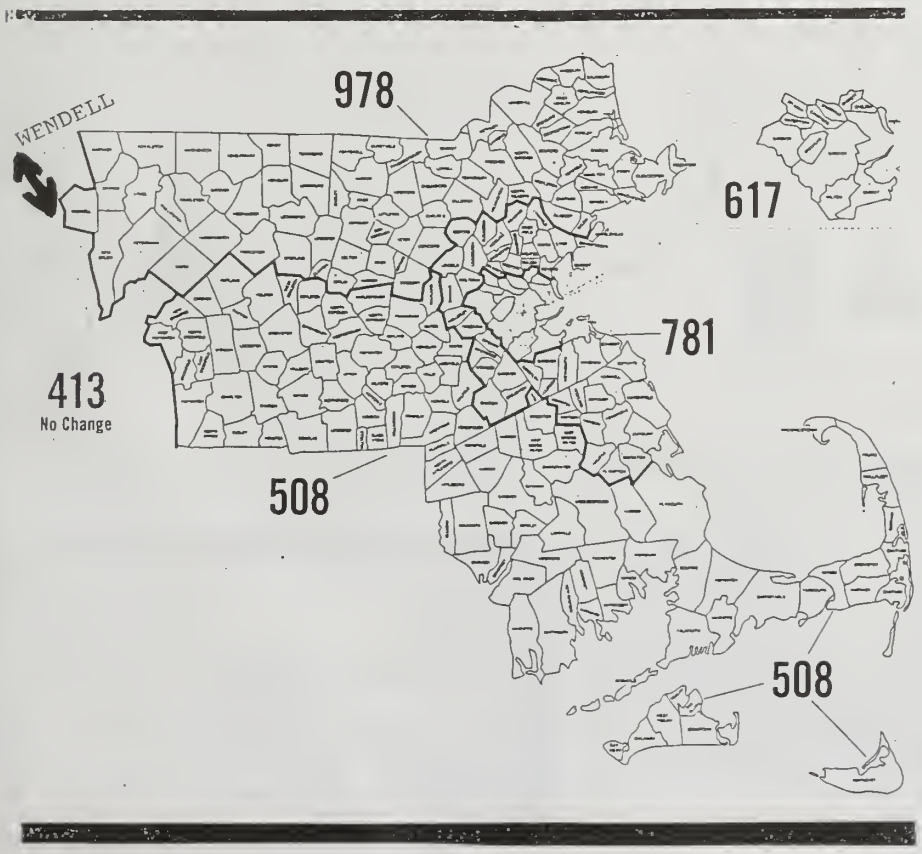
As always if anyone would like to run games, a booth, help with the parade, do a show, help set up or take down - it is a small group that plans the day and we welcome any help.

Call Annie at 544-6111 or Karen at 544-7352.

Area Code 413 Anyone?

During the process of the change from area code 508 to 978, the question has arisen if Wendell should become a part of area code 413. A glance at the map identifying new area codes shows that Wendell remains the town farthest west in the new area code (978) surrounded on three sides by 413 area code towns. In discussion with Michael Isenberg of the Telecommunications Division of the Massachusetts Department of Public Utilities, the Selectboard decided that Wendell was not prepared at this time to join the Town of Erving in petitioning the DPU for a change to area code 413. The Board would first want to assess how widespread interest in Town would be for such a change. We would also need answers from Bell Atlantic to specific questions about changes in local and long-distance calling plans that would accompany such a change. (For example area code 413 provides a LATA- wide discount calling plan not available in 978). If the Selectboard is to explore this issue further it would need an expression of interest from citizens of Wendell. Please call or write any member of the Board at attend a Selectboard meeting.

Margo Culley



Farmers Market

People who stopped at the market last year really enjoyed getting tasty fresh local organic produce right in town. The Wendell Farmers and Gardeners Market will continue this year, but it requires support.

More vendors and produce will make our local market thrive. Gardeners should plant extra of their favorite crops to sell. People with the occasional surplus of garden delights can find appreciative homes for their goodies at the market. Baked goods sell very well at the farmers market. Artists and crafters' wares are also welcome at the market. If you have a small number of items, the market manager will sell them, so you do not have to stay.

Customers are essential and appreciated. We thank you for your support the last two years.

The farmers and gardeners market will continue on Saturdays from May - October on the the town common near the bandstand. It will probably run from 11a.m - 2 p.m. The exact dates and times will be posted on the common and at the country store closer to the season. For more information, please contact Linda Hickman -544-8604.

Linda Hickman

Wendell Historical Society

The Wendell Historical Society is seeking new members. Proposed projects include restoring the Meetinghouse, placing historical markers, collecting additional local photographs, recording elders' memories, and inventorying and helping preserve the town cemeteries. Other ideas are welcome. The next meeting is Thursday, April 2, at 7 p.m. in the Senior Center. For more information, please contact Linda Hickman, 544-8604.

Linda Hickman

Right Brain/Left Brain Person Needed

Needed immediately: Someone who is good with people **and** with details and numbers (no higher mathematics!) to fill the position of Assistant Tax Collector. The position is designed to ease the work load in the Tax Collector's Office and to provide a "back up" when the Tax Collector is not available. Computer literacy helpful but not essential. Tact and discretion essential. Modest annual stipend provided. Anyone with questions about the position may contact Judy Wilder and/or any member of the Selectboard.

NOTICE

Anyone wishing to use the Senior Center must contact the Selectboard to make arrangements. Also, those presently using the Center on a regular basis should do the same so that a new schedule may be made and posted.

The Wendell Council on Aging

There will be a Diabetic and a Cholesterol testing held at the Senior Center in late April. This will be free of charge and open to anyone over eighteen. Watch for notices to be posted locally as to exact time and date.

The Wendell Council on Aging

Your new option for health care... now open!

West River Health Center

450 West River St., Orange, Mass.
(Exit 14 off Route 2)

- Fadi Baladi, MD, internal medicine - 544-1505
- Michael Azzoni, MD, orthopedics / sports medicine - 544-1512
- Orthopedic Physical Therapy - 544-1510
- Visting Specialists - 249-3511 Ext. 292 for appointments
  - Howard Tice, MD, gastroenterology
  - Richard Genovese, DPM, podiatry
  - Harold Goldman, MD, neurology
- X-ray - 544-1500
- Laboratory Services - 544-1500
- Community Health Service, a department of Athol Memorial Hospital, the community's home health agency, offering skilled nursing, physical therapy, occupational therapy, speech therapy, social service.- 249-5366
- Health and wellness education programs (watch for announcements)

a facility of
Athol Memorial Hospital

2033 Main St., Athol, Tel.: 978-249-3511
Your community hospital... serving the North Quabbin Region
An affiliate of the University of Massachusetts Medical Center

NEWS FROM THE SWIFT RIVER SCHOOL

O' CANADA AT THE SWIFT RIVER SCHOOL

From January 5th until February 12th Canada was brought to life at the Swift River School this year. Our teachers worked with volunteers and resident artists and found many creative ways to implement this enriching program into the school curriculum.

O' Canada culminated with a week-long Celebration at the school. All levels performed various Canadian folk dances and participated in a French-American Community Sing. The newly formed Community band played Canadian music, and original theatrical productions were presented by various classrooms. Students also enjoyed learning to play the spoons and clog to the live French Canadian tunes of Chanterelle.

On February 12th the gym was transformed into a Hudson Bay Trading Post where students displayed beadwork, pottery and masks they had made. Students shared their knowledge of Canadian history, geography, wildlife, language, and native traditions in many ways. For example, visitors could travel on the 3rd and 4th grader's Canadian Railroad as Canadian scenery rolled by. The 5th and 6th grader's contour drawings reflected their immigration studies. They also invented a game designed to help players learn about Canadian provinces and territories. It was a pleasure to follow the 1st and 2nd grader's creative and very informative "paddle-to-the-sea" journey from Ontario through the Great Lakes to the sea.

Preschooler's offered a chance to go fishing and identify animal tracks, and see their carefully designed beaver huts. The Kindergartner's paint brushes captured the Northern Lights, they made exquisite cradle board dolls, and their soap carvings of arctic animals resembled carvings found in the northern territories. There was a Folklore museum where visitors could learn about the traditions which inspired the visual arts projects, and try their hand at stenciling Inuit designs. Senator Brewer was there enjoying the scene. He missed out on our delicious Canadian school lunch, but he seemed interested in the Canadian refreshments prepared by our students and volunteers!

O' Canada is brought to us by the Celebrating Diversity program which actively engages our young people and the community in the study of other cultures through the arts, sciences and humanities. For six weeks of the year the program brings the world closer to us at the Swift River School. As our children become more familiar with other cultures and traditions, they not only learn dates names and facts, but they develop a lasting respect and understanding of people around the world.

This program taps local resources and makes use of our area's five colleges and cultural institutions. It's a program that integrates many crucial academic and enriching experiences into the school curriculum, and it brings our children of all ages together in school-wide explorations of various cultures each year.

This enriching program could not exist without our generous community volunteers, teacher's creativity and enthusiasm and the commitment and support of the Swift River School's administration.

Celebrating Diversity is a collaborative program of the Swift River School and the 1794 Meeting House. This program is designed by Erin Williams and gets funding from local supporters such as the New Salem Academy, the Wendell and New Salem Cultural Councils, the Swift River School PTCA, the Franklin County Business for the Arts, and the Mass. Cultural Council which is a State agency as well as from generous people like you.

Grant money for childcare

Erving School Union #28 was fortunate to receive the Massachusetts Community Partnership Grant. An important part of this grant is to provide subsidized (partial-full payment) daycare for eligible parents/guardians.

Children must reside in towns whose school districts include Erving, Leverett, Shutesbury or Swift River Elementary schools.

In the Erving School Union #28 there are a number of providers licensed by Office For ChildCare Services (formally OFC) participating in this program. These providers must have completed a course in C.P.R., First Aid, and basic child development. They are knowledgeable in providing a safe environment as well as providing opportunities that stimulate children to play and express their creative abilities.

Please support your local Office for Child Care Services Licensed providers.

The providers participating in the Community Partnership Grant are listed by town alphabetically:

Erving: Renee Pelis
Vicky Fellows
Leverett: Amar Fuller
Wendy Kosloski
Jean Williams
Hampshire-Franklin Daycare
New Salem: Angela Fisher
Lisa Furnelli
The Enchanted Forest
(After-school/Summer program)
Shutesbury: Terry Fllis
Wendell: Tammy Richard
Louanne Soos

If you are interested in this program, please contact the Erving School Union #28 Community Partnership Grant Coordinator Gillian Budine at (413) 659-0204.

This project is supported by a grant from the Massachusetts Department of Education.

Djemand's Farm
Wendell, Ma.
(508) 544-3806
Raised locally:
fresh brown eggs
fresh Thanksgiven turkeys
*fresh roasting chickens
maple syrup
as well as
catered chicken B-B-Q
A family business since 1936
*please pre-order

Wendell Woodworking
Bud Davis
Computer Aided Design
Building & Remodeling
Custom Cabinetry & Furniture
304 New Salem Rd.
Wendell, MA 01379
(508) 544-7290

指圧
SHIATSU
Japanese Massage
SHUNJI MORIMOTO
(508) 544-2375

Jerry Eide
Hill Town Restoration
(508) 544-7864
Specializing in Preservation Techniques

Historic Renovation
Work Done With Care
Foundation - Roof Repair
GNOMES RENOVATION & BUILDING
Licensed & Insured
Established 1974
MARK STEWART
P.O. Box 6
Wendell Depot, MA 01380
(508) 544-8715

Anne Perkins Grant Winner

The Thanks Be To Grandmother Winifred Foundation, a private foundation established in 1992, encourages, through individual grants, the creativity of women fifty-four and over to develop and implement projects that empower and enrich one or more aspects of the well-being of women.

The foundation is pleased to announce that Anne Perkins of Wendell was one of the Fall 1997 grant winners. Ms. Perkins was awarded $2,760 to tape and distribute 200 audio cassette sets of the Feldenkrais Method "Awareness Through Movement" lessons for women diagnosed with breast cancer. The Feldenkrais educational system helps students become aware of movement habits and provides choices for less stressful and more efficient action. Ms. Perkins plans to tailor the method to the needs of women diagnosed with breast cancer and produce a series of guided lessons on tape, scheduled for distribution in the summer of 1998.

A former carpenter and contractor who built her own home, Ms. Perkins is now a Certified Feldenkrais Practitioner offering group classes and hands-on sessions with adults and children. She also repairs skeletons used in art schools. Diagnosed with breast cancer herself in 1991, she has become a breast health educator and breast cancer activist, and has served on several scientific review panels for breast cancer research as a consumer/advocate. She is also a founding member of the local Feminist Aid to Central America.

From Experience To Expression

BREAST CANCER: FEAR OF RECURRENCE

Seeking works of art: stories (fiction or non-fiction), poetry, drawings, and photos dealing with the fear of recurrence or metastases from persons who have had breast cancer. For guidelines: SASE to Anthology: Pioneer Valley Breast Cancer Network, PO Box 536, Leeds, MA 01053. Deadline for submissions: April 30, 1998.

Anne Perkins
Secretary

Store Opens

THE HEART OF THE LOTUS

Dhamma
for calming the mind .
Fine local and global
handcrafted gifts.

Rt. 202 in New Salem Ma.

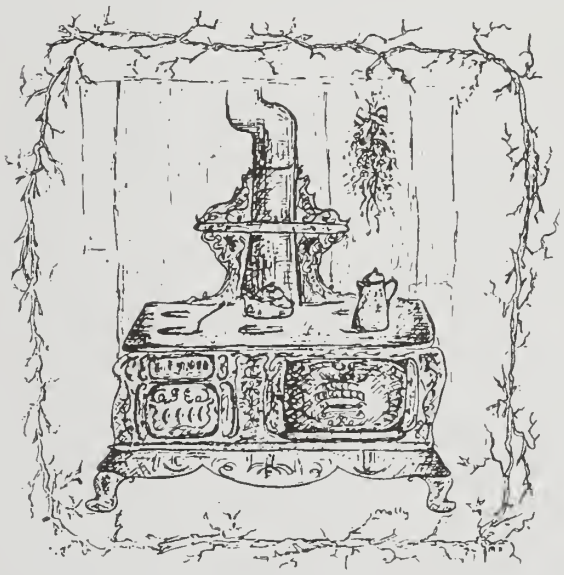
In mid March Dona O'Dou and Katie Boyle of Wendell will be opening the Heart of the Lotus on the corner of Rt. 202 and Wendell Road in New Salem, in the space recently known as the Buddha Place (Reliable Jane's). Their intentions are to provide the Dhamma community and local meditation practitioners with an outlet for obtaining meditation supplies. They intend to provide space for fine locally and globally handcrafted goods as well. Their exposure and sensitivity to meditation over the last dozen years has led them to have a sincere desire to cultivate meditation practice in the community. The intention of the store is to provide supplies for such use. Some articles of use will be Dhamma books and tapes. zafus (meditation cushions), zabutans (meditation mats), bells and gongs, candles, incense, Buddha rupas, etc.

They anticipate being open Friday through Monday 10:00 to 6.00. The Buddha Place, relocated in Barre, and the Heart of the Lotus, are the only two Dhamma stores in existence between Cambridge and New York. Doug, of the Buddha Place, and Dona have agreed to maintain a friendly exchange and enhance each others' businesses rather than compete.

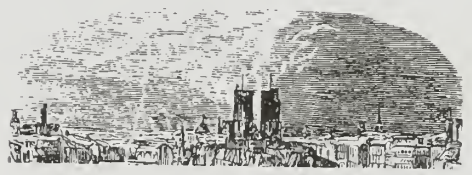
Katie Boyle has been a full-time librarian at the Jones Library in Amherst for the past 10 years. She recently moved to Wendell with her son and 2 cats. Dona O'Dou works part-time as a home health aid in Leverett and has lived in Wendell for 4 years with her 2 sons.

Local crafts people can contact them at Dona's home telephone: 978-544-05317.

Josh Heinemann



Observations in the Sky



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Pg. 12

FIRE LOG

6\25\97	Vehicle Fire	75 Locke Hill Rd.
7\2\97	Brush Fire	Farley Crossing Area
7\9\997	Power Line/Burn	262 Lockes Villkage
7\19\97	Vehicle Accident	238 Lockes Village
7\23\97	Medical	120 Lockes Village
8\21\97	Power Line/Tree	Jennison Rd.
8\24\97	Fire/Smoke Inv.	19 Morse Village Rd.
8\26\97	Detector Inv.	125 West Rd.
8\30\97	Veh. Acc./Med.	New Salem Rd.
9\8\97	Med-Call	110 Wendell Depot
9\9\97	Med-Call	9 Stone Rd.
9\11\97	Med-Call	382 Jennison rd.
9\28\97	Med-Call	71 Mormon Hollow R
10\5\97	False Alarm	281 Jennison Rd.
10\19\97	Chimney Fire	45 Plain Rd.
10\23\97	False Alarm	Swift River School
10\26\97	Med - Call	102 Lockes Village Rc
10\26\97	Fire Call	97 Wendell Depot Rd.
11\1\97	Public Service Call	New Salem Rd.
11\4\97	Med Call	New Salem Rd
11\7\97	Med Call	58 Bullard Pasture Rc
11\10\97	Med Call	71 Mormon Hollow R
11\12\97	Med Call	Jennison Rd.
11\15\97	Structure Fire	47 Farley rd.
11\19\97	Smoke Invest	Lake Grove School
11\28\97	Med Call	197 Wendell Depot rd
12\9\97	Med Call	Farley Rd.
12\17\98	Med Call	Sears Rd.
1\9\98	Med/Veh. Call	Montague rd.
1\17\98	Public Service	Kentfield Rd.
1\19\98	Med Call	Center Rd.
1\19\98	Med Call	Lake Grove School
1\22\98	Illegal Fire	Wendell Depot Bridge
1\24\98	Power Line/Limb	Wendell Depot Rd.
1\28\98	Chimney Fire	73 Montague Rd.

WENDELL POLICE LOG

11-16-97	Phone threats, Morse Village Rd.
11-22-97	Suspicious vehicle, Farley Rd.
11-24-97	Alarm, Jennison Rd.
11-25-97	One car accident, New Salem Rd.
11-28-97	Check welfare, Montague Rd.
11-19-97	Check welfare, Montague Rd.
12-09-97	Noise complaint, Wickett Pond Rd.
	Medical emergency, Farley Rd.
12-12-97	One car accident, Bullard Pasture Rd.
	Accident, Farley Rd.
12-12-97	Check welfare, Montague Rd.
	One car accident, Wendell Depot Rd.
	Runaway, Farley Rd.
12-15-97	Stolen car recovered, Fiske Pond.
12-20-97	Lost dog in Wendell.
	Annoyance phone calls, Mormon Hollow Rd.
01-05-98	Icy road conditions, Wendell Depot
01-06-98	Runaway, Farley Rd.
01-07-98	Annoying phone calls, Mormon Hollow Rd.
01-09-98	One car accident, Montague Rd.

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VOTER INFORMATION

ANNUAL TOWN ELECTIONS
MONDAY, MAY 4th

Many opportunities for active participation in Wendell town government will be available this spring. Annual Town Elections will be held on **Monday, May 4th**. Polls will be open from 10 A.M. to 8:00 P.M. Nomination papers may be obtained from Town Clerk Anna Hartjens at the Wendell Depot Store and must be returned by **Monday, March 16th**. And you may always run as a "write-in" candidate. The following positions will appear on the May ballot. Consider where YOU might best serve the town:

Selectboard (1). Chief executive officer of the town, responsible by law for carrying out the instructions of Town Meeting and providing administration for town departments. Has general supervision over all matters not assigned by statute to other town officers, makes appointments to certain town offices and boards, issues certain licenses and special permits. Term: three years.

Assessor (1). Responsible for the administration and technical work in appraising property for tax purposes and assessing taxes, determines the valuation of real and personal property for levying and abating local taxes. Computer skills helpful but not required. Term: three years.

Moderator (1). Presides over and regulates all town meetings, decides all questions of order, recognizes those who wish to speak at meetings and removes disorderly persons, makes public declarations on all votes, may administer oath of office to town officers in open meeting. Term: one year.

Road Commissioner (1). Oversees the construction and maintenance of all town roads, employs and supervises highway employees. Term: three years.

Planning Board (2). Administers the town's Zoning By-Laws including certain special permits. Will undertake the design of a Master Plan for the town influencing the town's future physical and economic development. Term: one five-year term; one four-year term (to fill a vacancy)

School Committee (2). Entrusted with broad powers to exercise control and supervision over local education. Formulates general policy, reviews and recommends on school budgets, and appoints certain school personnel. Term: three years.

Board of Health (4). Has broad powers to protect public health in town, conducts "perc" tests, inspects and issues permits for new septic systems and dry wells, administers the WRATS, issues licenses for food permits. Will continue to work with the D.& B. Demolition Landfill and consider issues of regional trash disposal. Will supervise the capping of the town landfill. Term: two, three-year terms; two, two year terms (to fill vacancies).

Cemetery Commissioner (1). Responsible for supervision, care and management of all public burial grounds in town. Will be involved with the design, construction, and administration of the new cemetery on New Salem Road. Term: three years.

Tree Warden (1). Has control of all public shade trees and shrubs in town, supervises all tree work done close to the roadside, and monitors the effects of insect pests on public trees. Term: one year.

Library Trustees (2). Oversees the operation of the Wendell Free Library, administers library funding from the state, local sources , and trust funds. Term: three years.

Constable (1). Posts town warrants, enforces Sunday observance laws, has the power of a sheriff in execution of his/her duties. Term: three years.

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MAY 2
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to be announced

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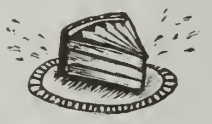

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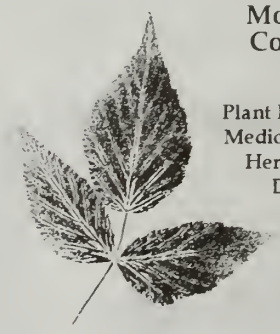

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